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Location of Soviet Atomic Centers

The following two items appeared in the New York Polish language daily newspaper News Sydat — the first on 9 April 1951, and the second on 17 November 1951:

Former Director of Soviet Armament Plans Reveals Information on Atomic Bomb Location, Guided Missiles and Submarine Development — New York, New Swiat, 9 April 1951 Only that portion of the article pertaining to atomic bombs is presented here.

The Paris daily Figaro reported [On 3 April 1951] that Vasiliy Sapozhnikov, son of the late Soviet marshal and one of the five directors of the Soviet five-year armament plan, had fled to Germany and brought with him secret documents.

Based on information furnished by Sapozhnikov and other sources, Figaro gives details on Soviet armament, asserting that progress on the atom bomb, guided missiles, and submarines has been made with the help of German scientists. Atomic production has been accelerated in the USSR, but Sapozhnikov does not know how many bombs have been produced.

All the Soviet atom bombs are located at one place, 240 kilometers southeast of Tomsk, in the Kuznets Basin. One of the four atom bomb plants is located in this area. The other three are in the Caucasus, Kazakhstan, and Turkestan, but are to be moved shortly into Siberia.

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The atom bomb arsenal itself is located in shelters 45 meters underground. Near the arsenals there is a large atomic proving ground of 6,000 square meters. The entire atomic area is guarded by more than 2,000 fighter planes stationed at 55 new airfields.

Furthermore, there are also two new atomic experimental stations in castern Siberia.

Three Atomic Centers Make up Soviet Atomgrad — New York, Nowy Swiat, 17 November 1951

The West Berlin Montags-Echo published the experiences of a certain German prisoner of war who worked at Atomgrad, the famous Soviet atomic center, until the end of 1948. Thousands of prisoners sent to this center from all the Siberian concentration camps labored to make it impervious to all atomic attacks. Thousands of them died from exhaustion, sickness, and various accidents, and were replaced by thousands of others.

The three largest parts of this atomic center are (said?) to be located in the Republic of Tannu Tuva, near the Mongolian border.

According to the author, Atomgrad I is located south of the Kuznets Basin, in the lower Altay Mountains. Atomgrad II is (said?) to be located about 1,000 kilometers to the east, near Lake Baykal, and Atomgrad III between the first two on the Ulukem River. In the event of war, Atomgrad I is to be the brain center, while the other two are to produce bombs.

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This brain center is (said?) to be built 20 stories sig/below ground and be the refuge for the most important ministries and the entire staff. The entire project is surrounded by fortresses, barracks, and airfields, and is guarded by elite military detachments.

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